

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2009

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs met in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 7:00 PM. At 7:05 PM Town Clerk Janet Orff Jacaruso, in the absence of Moderator Francis J. Larkin, declared a quorum present and opened the meeting. Nominations for a temporary moderator were heard. Robert Moro of Western Avenue was nominated; the nomination was seconded. No other nominations were put forth. Mr. Moro was elected as temporary moderator and was sworn in by Ms. Jacaruso.

Mr. Moro led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, and then asked for any department reports. Water & Sewer Commission Chair Robert Bird presented an update regarding the \$1.7 million DEP-mandated upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant was made, seconded and passed.

Article 1: Selectman Chair Alan Ryan moved that the Town vote to transfer to and from the accounts indicated below the following sums to pay prior year's bills (pre-7/1/09):

<u>To Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>From Account</u>
First American Realty	\$ 30.00	Historical Committee-Preservation
Entact Solutions	\$5,910.00*	Coordinator, Environmental Cleanup

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously @7:15PM.

**This amount is a duplicate and was previously voted at Town Meeting. \$5,910.00 will be rescinded at the next Town Meeting. (Notation per K. Reed, Department of Revenue).*

Article 2: Water & Sewer Commission Chairman Bob Bird moved that the sum of \$4,500,000 be and hereby is appropriated to fund the construction of a new Water Treatment Plant made necessary by the recent Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection approval the Greene Street well field, on September 3, 2008, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or note of the Town therefore and that the Treasurer or any other official of the Town is authorized to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement. The motion was seconded.

After much discussion, including approval from the Finance Committee and the Capital Planning Committee, the matter was put to vote. The motion passed by greater than the 2/3 required majority.

Article 3: Superintendent Patricia Ruane moved to amend the vote taken on Article 22 of the May 19, 2009 Annual Town Meeting, concluded on June 23, 2009, authorizing the use of a revolving fund pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §53E1/2 for the purpose of funding a School Bus Transportation Account and other related costs, which fund shall be credited with receipts from the School Department's Transportation Fee, to be expended under the authority of the School Committee by increasing the maximum expenditures from the fund from \$50,000 to \$100,000.00 for the fiscal year 2010.

The motion was seconded and passed at 8:20PM.

Article 4: Planning Board Chair Howard Maurer moved to amend the Towns Zoning By-law by revising Section 13: TABLE OF REGULATIONS as follows:

RA Zone, Minimum front yard (ft), change 10' to 20'.
The Planning Board had previously voted unanimously (4-0) to support this article.
The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Article 5: Planning Board Chair Howard Maurer moved to amend the Towns Zoning By-law by revising Section 13: TABLE OF REGULATIONS as follows:

RA-1 Zone, Minimum front yard (ft.), change from 40' (F) to 40' (H)
The Planning Board had previously voted unanimously (4-0) to support this article.
The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Article 6: Planning Board Chair Howard Maurer moved to amend the Towns Zoning By-law by revising Section 18.3(c): SITE PLAN REVIEW as follows:

Delete the words: "The Planning Board" and replace with "The Applicant".

The Planning Board had previously voted unanimously (4-0) to support this article.
The motion was seconded and passed unanimously at 8:29PM.

Article 7: Planning Board Chair Howard Maurer moved to amend the Towns Zoning By-law by revising Section 7.7: MOVING AND ILLUMINATED SIGNS as follows:

Add the following paragraphs at the end of the existing paragraph:

Moving rotating, pulsating and flashing signs include changeable lighted signs which permit light to be turned on or off intermittently or which are operated in a way whereby light is turned on or off intermittently, including LED (light emitting diode) or digital signs which vary in intensity or color no matter how generated. In addition, this includes signs which utilize light to form letters, figures, graphics or symbols, etc. and signs with lights which illuminate intermittently, such as, for example, a sign with blinking or moveable lights, regardless of wattage, whether directly or indirectly illuminated, including time and temperature signs. Signs that utilize screens for the display of electronically generated images or messages via either internal illumination of the screens or external projection onto the screens or via other digital or electronic technology that allows intermittent change of the message or display by electronic signals are also prohibited.

The Planning Board had previously voted (3-1) to support this article.
The motion was seconded.
A standing count was made by tellers: 44 in favor, 17 against.
The motion carried by a 2/3 margin at 8:40PM.

Article 8: Bob Bird moved to raise from Sewer Receipts the sum of \$30,000 to augment the Sewer Department Budget expense line for the payment of departmental debt.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion to dissolve the warrant was made, seconded and passed at 8:45PM.